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News Release

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CATTLE ON FEED

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,080,000 head as of January 1, 2011. The latest inventory was down 1 percent from December 1, 2010 but up 7 percent from January 1, 2010. The inventory included 710,000 steers and steer calves, up 9 percent from the last year's number. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 365,000 head, are up 3 percent from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, no change from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 165,000 head of fed cattle during December 2010, up 10 percent from the November 2010 marketings of 150,000 head and up 6 percent from a year ago. An estimated 160,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during December 2010, 45 percent above a year ago and 3 percent above November 2010 placements of 155,000. Of the number placed in December, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 31 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 25 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 25 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for December was estimated at 5,000 head, no change from last month and last year.

UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.5 million head on January 1, 2011. The inventory was 5 percent above January 1, 2010. The inventory included 7.18 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.26 million head, up 5 percent from 2010. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.80 million, 16 percent above 2009. Net placements were 1.73 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 480,000, 600-699 pounds were 495,000, 700-799 pounds were 440,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 380,000. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.83 million, 5 percent above 2009. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 65,000 during December, 10 percent below 2009.